

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information reproducing apparatus for reproducing image information stored on an information storage medium to display the image information by a display unit, said apparatus comprising:

an identifying unit for identifying attribute information of a display scheme provided for said image information;

a display area setting unit for determining a valid image-area to display said image information reproduced and an invalid image-area excluding said valid image-area in accordance with the attribute information identified by said identifying unit; and

an image information generating unit for displaying said image information on said valid image-area, and for simultaneously displaying external information supplied from an external information source excluding said information storage medium within a range of said invalid image-area.

2. The information reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said attribute information comprises an aspect ratio for specifying the length-to-width ratio of a reproduced image, and a display mode for specifying a mode such as panning scan or a letter box.

3. The information reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said external information is character information obtained from an FM teletext broadcast.

4. An information display method for reproducing image

information stored on an information storage medium to display the image information by a display unit, said method comprising the steps of:

identifying attribute information of a display scheme

5 provided for said image information;

determining a valid image-area for displaying said image information reproduced and an invalid image-area excluding said valid image-area in accordance with the said identified attribute information; and

10 displaying said image information on said valid image-area, and simultaneously displaying external information supplied from an external information source excluding said information storage medium within a range of said invalid image-area.

15 5. The information display method according to claim 4, wherein said attribute information comprises an aspect ratio for specifying the length-to-width ratio of a reproduced image, and a display mode for specifying a mode such as panning scan or a letter box.

20 6. The information display method according to claim 4, wherein said external information is character information obtained from an FM teletext broadcast.